



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were trending unchanged in the West, unchanged to lower elsewhere. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak, mostly weak. Demand was fair at best with heavy discounting not aiding movement. Supplies were adequate to burdensome. In the parts structure, wings were balanced to tight with good movement. The remaining items were more than sufficient with light demand. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, mostly desirable to heavy.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 1/10-01/15/00 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A (Including branded product)		WTD AVG	COMPOSITE LOADS
	MAJORITY	RANGE		
Bos/New Eng	TFEWR	—		
Chicago	45.00-48.00	31.00-61.00	47.12	25
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—		
Cleveland	TFEWR	—		
Denver	63.50	—		
Detroit	TFEWR	—		
Los Angeles	64.00	—		
New York	47.00-53.00	—		
Philadelphia	TFEWR	—		
Pittsburgh	TFEWR	—		
St. Louis	TFEWR	—		
San Francisco	64.50	—		
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	57.00-59.00	41.50-59.50	57.96	81

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 58.50 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
576	54.00-61.00	58.41
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	132.50	3,895
BREASTS - WHOLE	66.00	1,740
THIGH MEAT - B/S	72.50	596
LEG QUARTERS	20.00	7,690
WINGS	78.50	2,649

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. Demand continued slow to fair with no improvements expected for next week. Supplies were at least sufficient and being drastically discounted to help move. Some plants are planning week-end schedules to help control bird weights which can put additional pressure on the market. In the parts structure, wings were close balanced to short of an active call. All other items were more than adequate and readily available for the light demand. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at weights desirable to heavy.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was about steady with the preliminary majority prices unchanged. Offerings were fully adequate for current trade needs. Sharp discounts reported on WOGs. Retailer demand was moderate by stores best to cover ads and fairly good by fast food best. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. Trade sentiment was about steady on parts with wings in the strongest position.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's trading were 4 cents lower into Chicago and TFEWR elsewhere from last Monday's final. Whole fryer trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. Offerings were fully adequate to ample with buyers reluctant even at sharp discounts. Movement into all channels was light to very light, occasionally fair. Floor stocks were in a full range. Sizes desirable to heavy. Parts trading was lackluster, except wings continue to clear well. Supplies were adequate to short on wings with the balance of items at least fully steady. Trade sentiment was steady to firm on wings, balance steady to weak.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole fryers remained quiet with little hope for improvement next week. Offerings of all sizes were available and many processors planned to run this weekend in an effort to keep bird weights in check. Retail and distributive movement continued seasonally slow. The market tone was weak. In the parts market, product was more than sufficient for current needs.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds increased slightly entering the weekend, but still remained no better than fair and short of bringing seller offerings into satisfactory balance. Live supplies remained at least moderate; weights varied and were often heavier than desired. Processing schedules were very heavy as some plants planned weekend operations mainly to keep bird weights from increasing further. Less than trucklot asking prices were 2 cents lower at 52 to 64 cents. Trade sentiment remained weak. In the parts complex, supplies of all items were more than sufficient to handle the generally disappointing buying interest.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	53-66
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	56.66
NO. OF BOXES	9,694
CUMULATIVE	01/03/00-01/07/00 57.85
	01/04/99-01/08/99 58.48
NO. OF BOXES	01/03/00-01/07/00 49,236
	01/04/99-01/08/99 41,585

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

JAN 06, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

JAN 07, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS				WTD	POUNDS				WTD	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG		(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG		(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	607	123.00-164.00	125-130	130.97		597	118.00-164.00	125-130	130.17		3,288	130.55
TENDERLOINS	150	125.00-168.00	125-130	130.68		200	120.00-200.00	-	158.79		812	140.90
BREAST - LINE RUN	120	57.00-69.00	57-59	57.80		120	57.00-69.00	57-59	57.80		565	59.38
FRONT HALVES	70	49.00-52.00	-	50.50					TOO FEW TO REPORT		357	53.17
LEGS	49	27.00-34.00	27-30	28.29		49	27.00-34.00	27-28	28.29		243	27.91
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	381	15.50-19.00	16-17	16.40		501	15.50-19.00	16-17	16.43		2,275	16.31
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,318	17.75-21.00	20	19.83		1,158	20.00-21.00	-	20.03		6,172	19.86
WINGS (WHOLE)	109	70.00-78.00	72-74	74.20		149	74.50-78.00	75-76	75.62		603	73.46
WINGS (CUT)	522	81.00-95.00	86-88	88.24		502	85.00-92.00	85-87	87.91		2,379	87.78
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT							TOO FEW TO REPORT		59	34.00
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT							TOO FEW TO REPORT		23	34.00
B/S THIGHS	81	65.00-75.00	-	67.59					TOO FEW TO REPORT		357	69.46

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR JAN 06, 2000 — F.O.B. DOCK.

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR JAN 07, 2000— F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE		TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE		TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
32.25 - 35.50		33.45	32.25 - 35.00		33.22	34.97

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity improved slightly as the week ended but was fair at best. Offerings of wings were generally adequate to short. All other items were more than sufficient for current trade needs. Retail and distributive movement remained seasonally slow. The market tone was steady to fully steady on wings and steady at best on the balance.

PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

ITEM	JAN 06, 2000			JAN 07, 2000			WEEKLY	
	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	125-130	129.62	435,680	125-130	128.13	572,354	130.642	340,674
TENDERLOINS	125	125.05	68,160	125	124.98	116,560	125.03	449,560
BREAST - WITH RIBS	50-51	57.66	215,440	50-51	56.79	273,280	57.421	214,960
BREAST - LINE RUN	50	51.64	99,040	50	50.84	131,800	50.92	590,080
LEGS	26-27	32.03	157,280	31.58	239,840	31.40	947,200	26-27
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	18.41	337,681	18.64	536,969	18.70	2,329,593	16-17
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	33.42	84,940	33.95	90,310	33.78	448,560	34-35
THIGHS	21-22	25.63	109,400	30.06	66,560	27.90	436,590	21-22
B/S THIGHS	70-71	74.88	28,600	74.96	34,160	74.52	144,510	70-71
WINGS (WHOLE)	75-76	82.47	226,080	83.33	252,720	82.98	1,163,040	75-76
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.02	45,800	12.07	64,440	12.04	275,840	10-12
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	39.73	41,520	39.37	51,920	39.30	225,495	35-40
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	64.32	75,920	64.62	292,520	64.40	405,000	55-60

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	01/07	01/06	01/05	01/04	01/05	01/04	12/31	12/29
ALA	3,917	3,678	3,898	3,898	5.12	5.20	(A)	5.15
ARK	5,554	5,226	5,224	5,224	5.04	4.97	(A)	4.90
DELMARVA	3,125	2,406	2,473	2,473	5.25	5.17	Holiday	5.16
KY-LA-TN	2,143	2,046	1,806	1,806	4.49	4.53	(A)	4.45
MISS	3,416	2,788	2,781	2,781	4.91	5.12	(A)	5.00
NC	3,136	2,649	2,542	2,542	5.23	5.87	(A)	5.85
TEXAS	2,220	2,230	2,096	2,096	4.74	4.77	(A)	4.62
TOTAL	23,511	21,023	20,377	20,577	5.06	5.10	4,948	5.03
MON-FRI	105,185(B)						87,164(B)	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations

(B) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 07-Jan 0 08-Jan-00 is estimated to be 35,175,000 up 373.74 percent from a week ago and down 7.9 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 7,425,000; last year 38,176,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 08-Jan-00 is estimated to be 160,844,000 head up 26.1

percent from a week ago, and up 3.6 percent from a year ago

(Last week 127,584,000 Last year 155,318,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY
DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	78-82
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	88
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	309
RABBITS-CUT UP	326

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	104
	ICE PACK	92-98
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-107
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	98
	ICE PACK	91
DUCKS		149-162

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Dec. 25, 1999 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning
Food service
4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up

	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	23,672	18,799	23,906
Avg Weight	3.77	4.81	6.20
% of total /1	36%	28%	36%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	24,748	28,791	37,819
Avg Weight	3.78	4.69	6.06
% of total /1	27%	32%	41%
Same week, yr ago /2	18,856	14,065	21,455
Avg Weight	3.74	4.78	5.97
% of total /1	35%	26%	39%
To date/1999	1,605,968	1,555,193	2,050,839
To date/1998	1,685,244	1,768,114	1,544,323

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 01-Jan-00 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	127,584(A)	1,596	980	2,576	333
AVG WT	4.89	3.42	6.98	4.77	6.65
LAST WEEK	117,493	1,694	1,052	2,746	456
YR AGO	125,827	1,836	1,051	2,887	461
AVG WT	4.92	3.42	7.66	4.96	6.72
TO-DATE/1999	7,786,836	106,770	72,855	179,625	22,898
TO-DATE/1998	7,536,658	104,632	65,049	169,681	23,512

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 140.4 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 129.1 million head or 11.3 million head less than or 92 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY -- DATE OF AUCTION JAN 04, 2000
PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.60 - .72	Silkie	2.75 - 3.25ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.58 - .70	Geese 9-14	.30 - .42
Pekin Ducks	.56 - .68	Pigeons	1.25 - 2.50ea.
Red Fowl 4 -4.5	.30 - .48	White Pigeons	3.00 - 3.85ea.
Red Fowl 5-6	.40 - .56	Rabbits 4-6	1.10 - 1.80
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.30 - .64	Rabbits 7-11	1.00 - 1.24
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.30 - .82	Bunnies	1.00 - 5.50ea.
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.60 - .88	Guinea Pigs	3.00 - 6.50ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.95 - 2.25	Kid Goats	10.00 - 40.00ea.
Banty Roosters	2.00 - 5.50ea.	Doves	3.50 - 4.50ea.
Banty Hens	1.50 - 3.25ea.	Pullets 4-6	.60 - .84
Leghorn Hens	.05 - .14		
Leghorn Roosters	.30 - .44	Total Coops Sold	634

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FED-STATE FOR WEEK OF 03-JAN-2000
DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137	143

MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	121-125	122-126
MOSTLY	121-123	122-124

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	54-57	54-55
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	59-83	71-75

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA,RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices were unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady. Demand was moderate to good. Sizes were desirable to at times heavy. Slaughter schedules were fulltime to overtime. Prices to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in legs at \$1.15-1.70, gizzards at \$1.30-1.40, wings at \$0.40-0.60, and leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15. PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 03-JAN-2000

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
NOVEMBER 27	111.1	140.3	79	4.97
DECEMBER 4	155.9	143.6	109	5.08
11	153.3	144.1	106	5.01
18	150.8	139.5	108	5.05
25	118.9	137.9	86	5.05
JANUARY 1	129.1	140.4	92	4.89
YEAR TO DATE	7883.0	7817.3	101	
JANUARY 7		144.3		
14		148.5		

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 01-Jan-00 IN THOUSANDS

Broilers 2,887 HD, 14,522 lbs., Light Hens 168 HD, 575 lbs., Heavy Hens 56 HD, 466 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

-----THOUSANDS-----					
<u>W/E</u>	<u>01/07/00</u>	<u>12/25/99</u>	<u>% CHG</u>	<u>01/08/00</u>	<u>% CHG</u>
Broilers	160,844	*127,584	+26	*155,318	+04
Cattle	680	552	+23	*688	-01
Hogs	1,914	1,672	0	*2,071	-08
Under Federal Inspection					
* ACTUAL					

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Prices were irregular on light cannery and generally unchanged to slightly higher on heavies. Demand was light to moderate best on heavy cannery. Offerings were adequate on lights, and adequate to about adequate on heavies. The undertone ranged from about steady on lights to fully steady on heavy cannery.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
25-26.25 MAJORITY	31-36 MAJORITY 34.5-35.5
CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED	

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
25-28.5 MAJORITY	32-37 MAJORITY 36-36.75

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Demand was slow for the adequate to ample offerings. Processing schedules were usually at normal operating schedules. The undertone was no better than steady.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY HENS Sales were too few to report. Demand was moderate to fairly good for adequate but reduced offerings. Processing schedules were normal. Undertone was generally steady.

NORTH CENTRAL LIVE LIGHT HEN Prices unchanged. Offers fully adequate for the fair demand. Schedules are fulltime for the next several weeks. Trade sentiment steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT Plants generally worked full schedules. Offerings ample.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

HEAVY	RANGE	MAJORITY
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(1)
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(2)
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR	(1)
LIGHT	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern Light	0	(1)
Eastern Light	0	(2)
So. Central Light	TFEWR	(2)
No. Central Light	TFEWR	(1)
No. Central Light	0-.5	(2)
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	0

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT